

DECISION MEMORANDUM

**TO: COMMISSIONER KEMPTON
COMMISSIONER SMITH
COMMISSIONER REDFORD
COMMISSION SECRETARY
COMMISSION STAFF
LEGAL**

**FROM: SCOTT WOODBURY
DEPUTY ATTORNEY GENERAL**

DATE: APRIL 1, 2010

**SUBJECT: CASE NO. AVU-G-10-02 (Avista)
SCHEDULE 191 – ENERGY EFFICIENCY RIDER ADJUSTMENT**

On February 16, 2010, Avista Corporation dba Avista Utilities (Avista; Company) filed an Application with the Idaho Public Utilities Commission (Commission) requesting a \$1.6 million (2.6%) increase in the Company's natural gas Schedule 191 – Energy Efficiency (Public Purpose) Rider Adjustment. The Rider Adjustment is designed to recover costs incurred by the Company associated with providing natural gas energy efficiency services and programs to retail customers taking service under Schedules 101, 111 & 112 and 131 & 132. The proposed effective date was April 1, 2010.

On March 9, 2010, the Commission issued a Notice of Application in Case No. AVU-G-10-01 and by Order No. 31017 suspended the Company's proposed effective date.

On March 31, 2010, Avista filed its Energy Efficiency Annual Report (Annual Report). In assessing the reasonableness of the Company's proposed Schedule 191 Energy Efficiency Rider Adjustment, Staff intends to review the Annual Report and assess the Company's energy efficiency program experience. Staff recommends that the Company's Schedule 191 filing be processed pursuant to Modified Procedure, i.e., by written submission rather than by hearing. Reference Commission Rules of Procedure, IDAPA 31.01.01.201-204. Staff recommends an extended 60-day comment period to allow sufficient time for discovery and review.

COMMISSION DECISION

Initial Notice of Application in Case No. AVU-G-10-02 issued on March 9, 2010. In processing the Company's Schedule 191 Application, Staff requires sufficient time to review and investigate the Company's Energy Efficiency Annual Report filed on March 31, 2010. Staff recommends that the Company's Schedule 191 Application be processed pursuant to Modified Procedure and requests a 60-day comment period. Does the Commission agree with Staff's recommended procedure?



Scott Woodbury
Deputy Attorney General

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